

Boubou unleashes welfare cops on the public

by Wayne Hiltz

The new powers given to special welfare inspectors are unnecessary and excessive, say welfare rights advocates and human rights lawyers.

Bill-37, Québec's new welfare law passed last summer, gives these investigators the power to interview third parties—including welfare recipients' friends, family, neighbours, or landlords.

Fines up to a maximum of \$1000 can be levied against those refusing to answer or those giving false statements.

"The level of abuse doesn't justify the hiring of special investigators," said Sandra Capponi, coordinator of the NDG Anti-Poverty Group.

She said a lot of the money the welfare department claims it has saved because of fraud was later given back through appeals.

A welfare rights activist in Pointe St. Charles wondered why welfare recipients have been singled out for special inspection.

"Why do they need police with special powers in just this case?" asked Paul Evans, the resource coordinator of the Welfare Rights Committee of St. Columba House.

He said it is easy for the government to attack people on welfare who are stereotyped as lazy and trying to rip off the system.

"Why don't they use the current system rather than having to coerce the public to cooperate with them?" Evans said.

Welfare rights advocates have dubbed the new investigators as the Super Boubou Macoutes, in reference to the infamous vigilante group in Haiti. They say the new powers

violate the right of privacy of welfare recipients and other civil rights.

In a demonstration last week, protestors dramatized the invasion of Super Macoutes by "interviewing" the neighbours of Income Minister André Bourbeau.

"The Québec Human Rights Commission has stated that these ministerial investigators have too much power," said Pierre Bossé, a Commission legal adviser specializing on welfare and discrimination issues. "This power can threaten to deprive welfare recipients of their rights."

Bossé said having to answer inspectors' questions poses a difficult dilemma for welfare groups.

"We don't want to go to court and or pay fines because we refuse to give information," said Evans. "And we certainly don't want to give information on people that we're working with."

A press aide to Income Security Minister André Bourbeau defended the powers given to the new inspectors who are officially known as "agents vérificateurs."

"They are needed to counter the growth of funds given to a lot of people who don't need it and who give false information," press aide Diane Blondeau said.

About \$250 million has been lost from overpayments in the last several years and about \$18 million last year, she said.

Blondeau added that inspectors have been restrained from finding out if the recipient is working while collecting welfare.

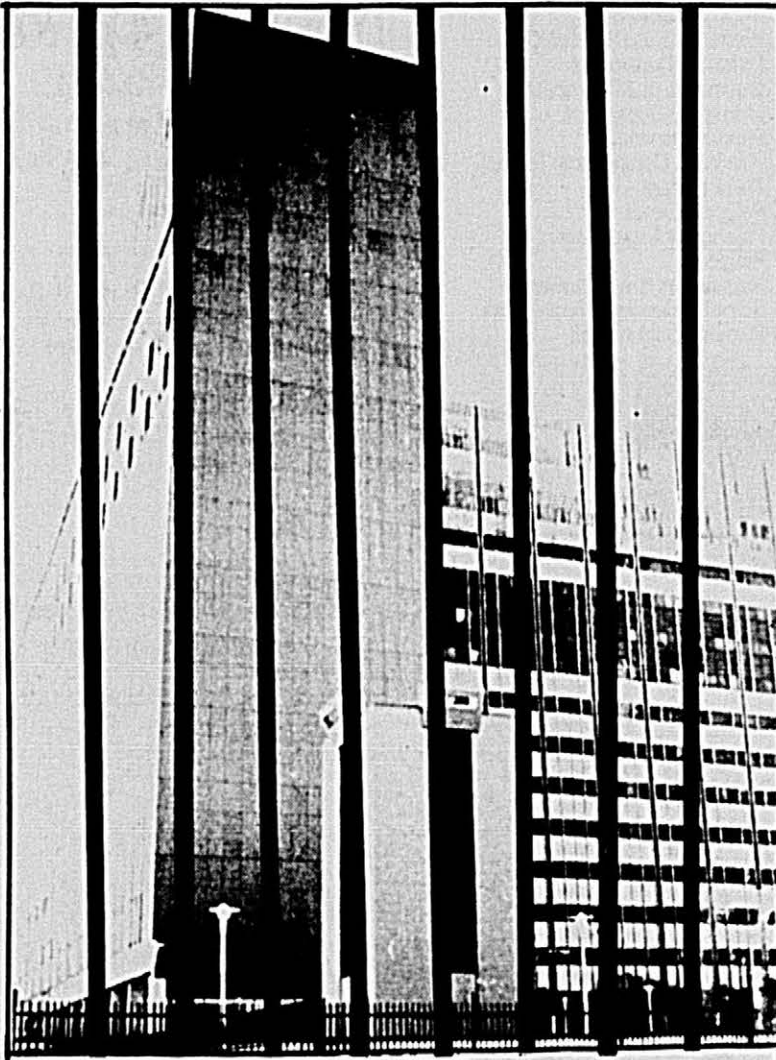
The powers given to the new

welfare inspectors to question third parties and penalize non-collaborators are not unlike those found in other government departments, she said.

Blondeau was confident these

new investigative powers would stand up in court.

Bossé said the Commission is ready to contest the new investigators' powers in court if it receives a clear and formal request from welfare groups or recipients.



*The steel hell fortress...
See pages 3 and 5.*

Churches damn Innu trial

by Trefor Smith

The ongoing trial of Innu protestors is "a mockery of justice," say several Canadian churches.

Five Innu and four non-Innu supporters face charges of criminal mischief this week for demonstrating against low-level military test flights in northern Québec last September. Father Jim Roche, a Catholic priest who refused to accept a conditional release, has been in jail for the last four months.

Representatives from the Anglican, United and Catholic churches spoke on Monday at Christ's Church as part of the Montréal-based Coalition Against NATO in Nitassinan.

Philippe Duhamel — from the Alliance for Non-Violent Action — was pessimistic about the outcome of the trial. "They face certain accusation. They go before a white judge," he said.

The Canadian government wants to expand Canadian Forces Base Goose Bay in Labrador into a \$800 million Tactical Flight and Weapons Training Centre by inviting NATO countries to practice low-level flight techniques.

Jeannie Rosenberg, representative for Health Professionals for Nuclear Responsibility, says low-level flights are staged offensive strikes. "They are practicing to launch nuclear attacks on other countries."

Presently NATO planes practice 7000 flights a year. A new base would increase the number to 40 000 low-level flights a year. Noise disturbances created by low-level flights have been proven to cause stress pain, and physical damage to human beings.

Innu representatives said the new NATO base will destroy the environment which supplies their bush-economy. Forced displacement from the bush to government-made welfare communities will destroy their people.

Anglican Church spokesperson Gert Bulmer agrees. "The implementation of the base would amount to genocide," he said.

Church leaders are calling for the halt of all development on aboriginal lands where jurisdiction is in question, Bulmer said.

No land treaty has ever existed between the Innu nation and the Canadian government.

The Innu protest is one in a recent wave of non-violent resistance by aboriginal groups throughout Canada against the destruction of their homelands by invading military, hydro-electric, forestry and mineral interests.

City reps protest Rental Board's anti-tenant proposals

by Peter Atto

The Democratic Coalition of Montréal is mobilizing public pressure against suggested changes to the Québec Rental Board they say would threaten low-income citizens.

Last month, Québec Minister of Housing Yvon Picotte recommended raising the fee for a rental board hearing from \$25 to \$75 and making it non-refundable. Presently, the landlord pays the fee if a tenant's complaint is deemed justified.

Picotte also suggested closing several Rental Board offices across Montréal.

Members of the Coalition (DCM) rallied opposition to the suggestions at a January 29 City

Council meeting, gaining the support of Montréal Mayor Jean Doré and city councillor Arnold Bennett.

Boskey said a \$75 fee would be too expensive for low-income tenants.

The Ministry has since denied any fee increases are being considered, saying "the idea has been definitely written off."

But other revisions have not been abandoned.

Elizabeth Mackay, a spokesperson for Picotte, said refunding the fee encouraged tenants to take registering a complaint lightly. A no-refund policy would discourage complaints and lessen congestion, according to Mackay.

"Now they will think twice before they complain," she said.

Boskey said making the fee non-

refundable would prohibit people with meager resources from using the board in disputes with their landlord.

"There has always been a problem getting people to use the rental board," said city councillor and DCM member Sam Boskey, "these changes would further discourage such use."

Picotte's suggestion to close several Montréal Rental Board offices has also angered DCM members. Mackay said the objective was to improve efficiency, concentrating staff and resources.

DCM member and city councillor Marvin Rotrand said closing local offices of the Board will make it less a part of the community and less approachable.

"People shouldn't have to drive

28 miles to deal with the Rental Board," said Rotrand. "Many tenants are already intimidated by their landlords and Rental Board procedure. Any measure that discourages accessibility is unacceptable."

Boskey said the Ministry's retreat from the fee hike was a result of pressure mobilized in part by the DCM.

"The Minister probably saw which way the wind was blowing," he said.

Rotrand stressed the issue was far from dead, since the other "streamlining" suggestions have not been abandoned.

"Governments often try to achieve the same goals using different tactics," he said.

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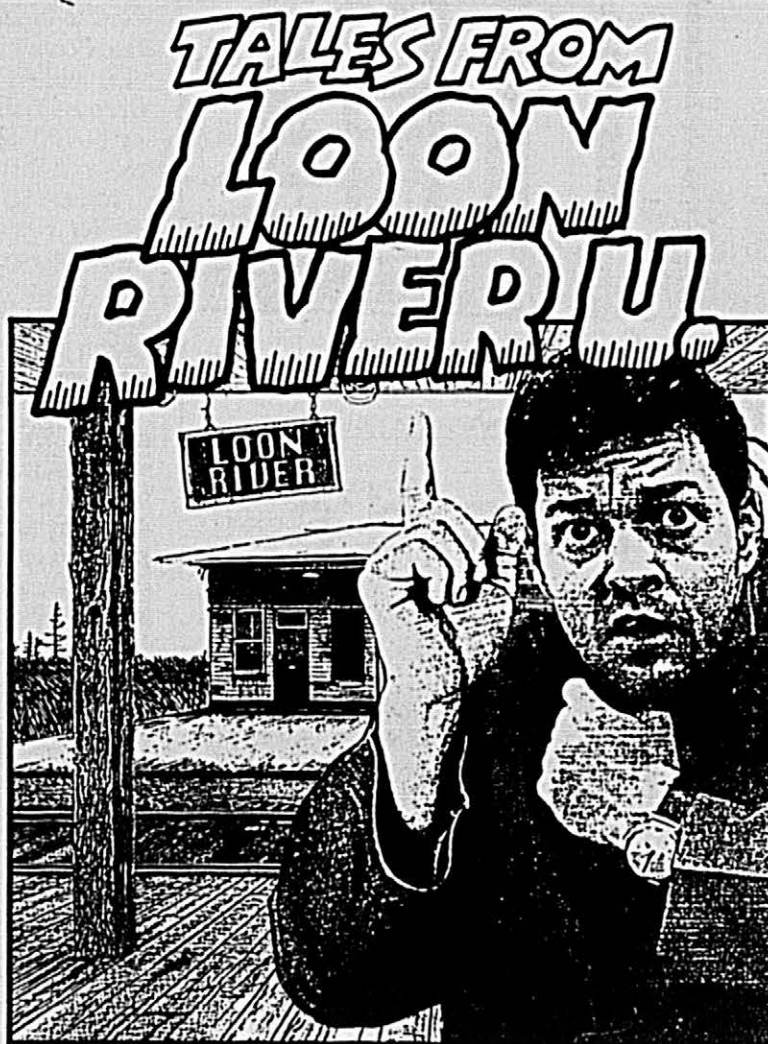
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Loon River U student Billy Joe MacBride wrote his mid-term on Molecular Organic Structural Biology and immediately felt the need to leave town. It had been a tough exam. Even tougher since Billy Joe was a Business major. If only he hadn't taken that left turn on the quadrangle...

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She will be speaking on

**Thoughts on the
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Ms MacDonald is a former Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, Minister of Communications, Minister of Employment and Immigration and currently adviser to Prime Minister Mulroney.

Prisoners treated like animals: rights group

by Dasi Moscovitch

The Office des Droits des Détenus, a prisoners' rights group, is not well liked by prison institutions. They constantly expose incidents which prison administrators would rather keep covered up.

Hélène Danlis, a law student doing field placement with the group, said the office receives daily reports of injustices ranging from serious offenses to basic denied rights. "It is through this abusive treatment that prisoner's lives become animal like," said Danlis. Instead of reform, prisons teach inmates about violence.

Prisoners' rights activists claim prisoners are treated like children and are not allowed to express themselves. "The violence is only part

of the abuse prisoners experience. They are also victims of regular psychological abuse," said Jean Claude Benheim, coordinator of the Office.

"We are trying to invoke a greater respect for prisoner's rights," said Benheim.

Visitation privileges and medical rights are often denied. Danlis cited the case of a diabetic prisoner in a provincial prison who was prevented from seeing his specialist. "His case was severe but once he became an inmate he was under the prison doctor's supervision," said Danlis. Prison doctors are usually general practitioners.

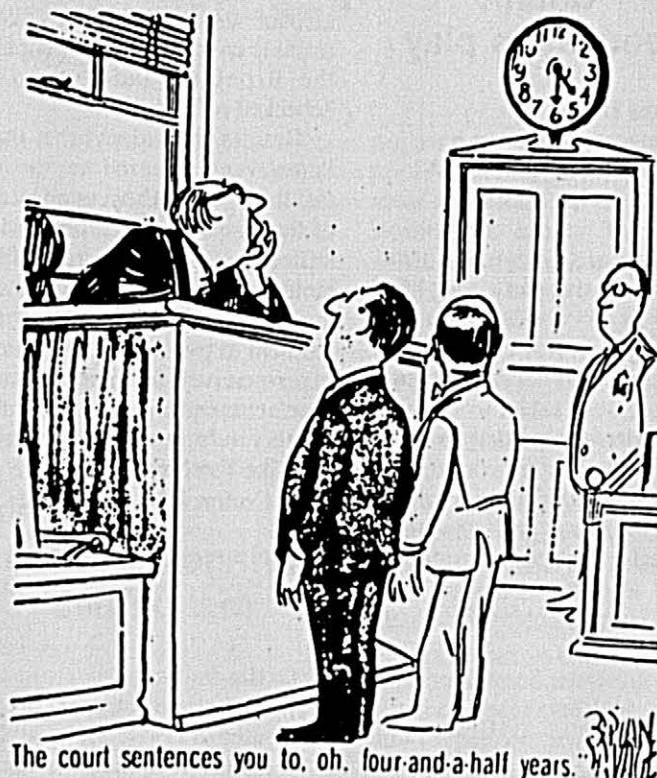
The reason most cases do not go to trial is lack of proof, Benheim said. "A prisoner's credibility holds no weight in court," he said. "In

order to prove anything you need an outside witness. The prison system is a very closed, conservative institution," he added. Guards are protected by this system, and only in extreme cases do they receive suspension.

Suicide in prison is not uncommon. Alain Drapeau, a 20 year old inmate of Bordeaux, hanged himself with bedsheets two months before his release date. The night guard found him, still flailing. He stood by and watched, but radioed for assistance.

"That is the institutional policy, a guard is not allowed to enter a cell in that situation alone," said Benheim. "That is the system, first rules, then people."

Prison officials could not be reached for comment.



GILLES PESANT

Marjorie Ross urges Canadian banks to shoulder their part of the third world debt

Banks forget global debt?

by Cassandra Hanrahan

Canadian banks should do their part to reduce international debt, said a speaker on Task Force on Churches and Corporate Responsibility to International Debt.

"When you owe the bank \$1000, it's your problem, when you owe the bank \$500 000 it's the bank's problem, but when a country owes a bank billions of dollars, it's everyone's problem," said Taskforce member Marjorie Ross, at a meeting last week hosted by the Social Justice Committee.

Taskforce members, who are also bank shareholders, called for commercial Canadian banks to reschedule and forgive loans made to third world nations.

"Banks must accept the principles of debt reduction," said Ross. "Banks cannot continue to expect full payments while these nations are profoundly depressed with stag-

nating economics."

Third world countries are struggling to pay the bills on long-term loans from western commercial banks whose interest rates were suddenly jacked up during an economic recession in the early '80s.

The Bank of Montréal refused the proposal, but the Royal Bank and the Bank of Nova Scotia said they will consider the proposals.

The purpose of the Task Force is to pressure banks and other corporations into immediate, effective action, as well as to raise the public's awareness of the debt crisis.

"People are confused with economics," said Ross, "but it is precisely our ignorance which is costing thousands of deaths."

The Task Force urges Canadians to question local bank managers on their policies towards the debt crisis.

Said Ross, "We have the right to know what they are doing with our money. Part of their image is to appear to act responsibly."

Bank managers in Montréal seemed to be uninformed about their banks' position in the debt crisis. Most suggested calling their national offices in Ottawa.

The first priority of commercial banks is profit, not people.

"Banks are supposed to make a return on their investments and are expected by share holders not to lose money, as well as behave in a business-like manner," said William Cosgrove, former Vice President of the World Bank.

"Many banks have already written many of the loans off," he said, "But now many banks are reluctant to make further loans which means cutting back the official money source for some of these developing countries," he said.

He added that it is the jurisdiction of international aid and financial organizations such as the World Bank to reduce international debt.

Nicaraguans go to polls

Sandinistas hope Yanks stay home

by Adam Sadowski

Nicaraguans will go to the polls later this month for the second time since the 1979 revolution as part of the ruling Sandinista party's attempt to achieve legitimacy.

The first secretary of the Nicaraguan embassy to Canada, Miguel Cardenas, spoke to an audience of about 50 people in the Moot Court of Chancellor Day Hall last Friday as part of McGill Development Week.

Cardenas—who spoke through an interpreter—said a Sandinista victory on February 25 would represent the "first step" toward reconstruction, peace and social development in Nicaragua. He said

if the Sandinistas defeat the US backed Oppositional National Union party—who Cardenas calls the "right breast fed by the US"—confrontations between the US and Nicaragua would almost end.

The United States completely ignored the decisive victory won by the Sandinistas in the 1984 elections and declared the elections fraudulent, according to Cardenas.

To prevent Americans from nullifying elections again, the Nicaraguan government requested what Cardenas termed "total vigilance" in the electoral process by international observers. The United Nations and the Organization of American States will send about 1000 representatives each to over-

see elections, according to Cardenas. Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO), Oxfam and the United Church Committee will send representatives from Canada.

The elections will cost \$40 to 50 million. In a rare move which Cardenas said adds to the "enormous economic burden" of election costs, the government gave money to all parties participating in the election.

The parties are permitted to seek international aid—half of which goes to the electoral council responsible for running the election.

Cardenas accused the Oppositional National Union of breaking this law. The ONU is a union of

what Cardenas called "twelve parties of the right and pseudo left." He said the party did not declare \$9 million donated by the US.

Upon election, the Sandinistas promise to release the last 39 political prisoners from the 1979 revolution. They also promise to free over 1200 US backed Contra rebels from prison.

Nicaraguan citizens will elect candidates from 21 political parties to four different areas of government for six year terms. They will elect the president and vice president, the members of the National Assembly, the members of the regional councils and the mayors and representatives of all the towns and regions in the country.

Games greedheads play

To the Daily:

Management students have just concluded their annual Winter Carnival. As is custom, the week was one of intense competition, comradery and enjoyment. However, as an active participant I feel obliged to call notice to the poor taste and judgement demonstrated by the organizers of certain events.

Teams were asked to submit a representative to participate in an "Egg Snorting" competition. This event was without question revolting, demeaning and obviously abnormal to both the participants and the spectators. I am truly lost for a motivation behind the creator of this race.

The infamous Scavenger Hunt was as usual immense fun and a challenge, yet was also tainted with bad taste. One of the items each team was asked to procure was a picture of a team member in a confessional booth. I am not exactly sure how ignorant the organizers were to the sacreligiosity accompanying this item. Catholics happen to hold the confessional as one of the seven holy sacraments. To make light of such a sacrament is purely disrespectful to Catholics.

Also requested was a "wino." The insensitivity this reveals is appalling. As individuals who are fortunate to have the opportunity to receive a higher education for the sake of career advancement, we should be the last to prosper at the misery and misfortune of others.

Insulting sums of five dollars and alcohol were employed by some teams to entice these poor people to the Bronfman building to be "checked off."

Besides the sadness that these items/events occurred was the fact that they were not boycotted by any of the teams or the carnival committee, in which I am regretfully included. When competition clouds morality and judgement is the moment to pause and place things in perspective. I only hope that next year's carnival will be as enjoyable as this year's, but with better taste.

Mike Harrington
B-Comm U3

Fringe parties are real parties

To the Daily:

Mark Lurie's letter of Jan 17 ("He hates to say it, but he told us so") was itself, in his own words, "poignant, to say the least." However, my good friend misleads us when he writes that "the NDP received hardly a mention" in last year's *Daily* federal election special issue.

Most of the features in that newspaper were about *issues*, not particular parties, including free trade, refugee legislation, abortion, native rights, labour, militarization and culture. Each of these was composed of either a critique of the incumbent's record, a sketch of the alternative positions, or both. In light of the Tories' obviously imminent victory, I am sure the *Daily* chose such a strategy for

pragmatic as well as ideological reasons.

Now, Mark condemns the "full-length profiles of parties like Marxist-Leninists" which were included in the special issue, and equates this with "tunnel vision," as though the *Daily* "said 'Fuck You' to the system." There were three such profiles, the other two concerning the Rhinos and the Green Party of Canada, none of which were longer than a half-page.

I fail to understand why Mark considers covering fringe parties tantamount to rejecting the system — as though the system in its pure state consists solely of the PC, NDP and Liberal Parties. As well, the profile of the Green Party was by far the longest of the three, with 35 column inches compared to 21 for the Marxists and 19 for the Rhinos.

It is doubly surprising to me that Mark would regard the Greens as a fringe party on a par with the Marxist-Leninists, despite his avowed concern for the environment. In his words, "that is... the most illogical scheme I ever heard of."

Rest assured, it is completely without bitterness that I write this reply. Of course we reap what we sow. To quote the lead editorial on the front page of the Federal Election Special Issue, "We are not blind to the limits of an electoral process in a capitalist society. But we also recognize that we have to work within its limitations..."

Jean Chenier
PoliSci MA 2

ed. note: The Daily would like to apologize to Mr. Chenier for misplacing his letter, which came in two weeks ago.

Frightful sight

To the Daily:

I can't believe my eyes. Does Prof. Michael Bristol really believe that no woman is available to teach "Women in Fiction?" ("Closet door opens..." Jan. 31). This belief may allow him to play "role model" — a rather counterproductive one, unless it is that of "fictitious woman" — but McGill really ought to look a bit harder. Or is it a matter of there being too few women hired in the first place?

Martin Dufresne
Montréal Men Against Sexism

And in this corner...

To the Daily:

Kurt Mang's reply to Carl P. Wilson's critique of the *Via* cuts (*Daily*, January 30) is as vicious as it is vacuous. Instead of stating his beef, he uses what's become the dominant rhetorical tactic of the right: If there's nothing wrong with someone's argument, make fun of them.

Mang should watch out. Excessive reliance on this device has put right-wing intellectuals on the endangered species list. Not only that, he isn't very good at it. Judging by his grade-school sarcasm, I'd say that if he and Wilson were to square off in a more pugilistic forum (the Morton Downey show, for example), he'd be creamed.

The sadism of Mang's attack on Wilson makes me wonder what's eating him. It sounds like he, not Wilson, is the one getting no fun out of life.

As for Mang's substantive points, they're laughable and he knows it. In fact, they're so indefensible he cravenly slips them in between verbal blows at Wilson's head. Yes, *Via* is a money loser, but so are airports and nuclear subs. So are tax breaks for the wealthy. Unfeeling reactionaries like Mang mainly object to federal "money losers" when people of modest means stand to gain.

And of course the government has both legal right and good reason not to gut the train system; he's dreaming free enterprise dreams if he thinks otherwise.

But if he really wants a stiff neck on his next trip to Saint John, he's welcome to take the bus.

Peter Feldstein
Special — Music

ed. note: Hey, Peter, why don't you come join the Daily — or at least our band!?

Daily reader eager to respond

To the Daily:

When I read B. Rutherford's letter (Wed., Jan. 10), I very much wanted to respond. Unfortunately, I did not have the time. That is why I am very glad that the exact same letter was published again in the Jan. 31st edition of the *Daily*.

Although I disagree with the entire letter, I would only like to comment on one point made by Rutherford, that "neither the PLO, nor the Intifada are against the state of Israel." This indicates that Rutherford, like so many others, has fallen prey to the lies of the PLO.

In the last few years, the PLO has tried to create the impression that its goal is the creation of a Palestine state in the West Bank. This is a perversion of history. The PLO was created in 1964, the West Bank was occupied by Israel in 1967. Thus the "Palestine" which the PLO was created to "liberate" is obviously Israel in its entirety, not the West Bank.

One doesn't need to look far in order to confirm this idea. Just open up the Palestinian National Covenant (the constitution of the PLO). In article 22 it states:

"Israel is a constant threat to peace in the Middle East and the entire world. Since the liberation of Palestine will destroy the Zionist and imperialist presence...the people of Palestine look to the support of all liberal men of the world."

Some may say that the Covenant was drafted along time ago (1968), and that since then the PLO has changed. True, the PLO has changed. They have realized that a propaganda campaign, where they portray themselves as innocents (despite having killed hundreds of innocent people in terrorist acts), could be used as an effective weapon against Israel.

By using political pressure, the PLO is hoping that Israel will have no choice but to make territorial concessions. When this happens, the PLO will use the Palestinian state as a point from which to launch their attack to destroy Israel.

This was first stated in the Ten Point Program (1974) which is the PLO's guide to diplomacy.

"Point 4: Any liberation step that is achieved constitutes a step for continuing to achieve the PLO strategy for the establishment of the Palestinian democratic state that is stipulated in the resolutions of the previous councils (ie. all of Israel)."

This statement has been repeated many times by the leaders of the PLO. For example, Salah Kalaf (Abu Iyad), second in command of the PLO, made the following statements:

"We have strayed and begun to say only 'the West Bank' and we have seemingly forgotten Palestine...[The state formed in the continued on page 6

hyde park

Lecturer to trace war and peace in Canada's past

Voix des Femmes/Voice of Women is sponsoring a public lecture (in English) by writer and historian Dr. Andrée Lévesque, on "Violence and peace in Canadian society." The Lecture is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, February 13, 1990 at 19h30 at Channing Hall, the Unitarian Church, 3415 Simpson St. Montréal. The meeting is open to all and will be followed by questions and discussion in French and English.

Dr. Lévesque, professor of Canadian and women's history at McGill University, will put domestic violence and militarism into perspective by tracing the history of anti-violence and pacifist movements in Québec and Canada since World War I. Lévesque recently published *La norme et les déviantes*, a social history of women's and peace groups during the thirties.

For more information contact Francis Barskey at 276-1745 or Carolyn Perkes at 287-7536.

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Prisoners' rights advocates reject Canada's answer to crime

"There's bedlam in the justice system," said Marie Beemans, a criminologist at the Prisoners' Rights Committee. She was lamenting the odd role prisons play in Canada's social policy.

The prison is the catch-all net for people falling through the welfare net — it's all part of a social system that marginalizes people who just can't cut it.

BY ALEX ROSLIN

Canada has the fourth highest per capita prison population in the world after South Africa, the United States and the Soviet Union. And incarceration rates are going up, especially in Québec.

"Our judges have a reputation for harshness — sentences are longer, jailing is more frequent," said Beemans.

The answer is to jail less, she said. The Netherlands, for example, have one-tenth Canada's prison population. Beemans said Canadians have a misperception that most inmates committed violent crimes. In fact, only 7 per cent did, while almost 90 per cent are in provincial jails for drunkenness, break-and-enters and car thefts.

"Most crimes are related to poverty. The people who get incarcerated are those who stand out — minorities, drug users, street people. In some prisons in western Canada, for example, 90 per cent of inmates are Natives. It's obviously symptomatic of social problems and policies."

Prison-reform advocates bitterly oppose Canada's answer to crime — knee-jerk incarceration — because prison radically undermines criminals' self-perception, driving a wedge between them and society that gets worse when ex-inmates try to rebuild their lives.

FROM CRIME TO JAIL

Bad conditions in prisons are the mark of a throw-away society, in which nobody cares about what happens to used chocolate wrappers, milk cartons, and people, once city officials remove them from sight.

"People just see criminals locked up and

then forget about them."

Conditions in Montréal-area provincial prisons are so awful, inmates would rather spend two years in a federal jail than six months at Bordeaux, said Beemans.

Some Québec prisons are so overcrowded, prison guards complained last month, they have to let inmates out before their sentences are up.

Regular reports of inmate beatings by guards are more evidence Canada's system of justice is defective.

Said Beemans, "There isn't a month that goes by when we don't hear about some major incident. And those are only the group beatings. There's individual cases every week, or so."

"None of the guards have ever been charged. It's a hard thing to prove. They say the bruises are from accidents."

Last October, overcrowding in local jails led to a massive shuffle of inmates, during which dozens were reportedly beaten by guards.

After complaints by the Prisoners' Rights Committee (PRC), Public Security minister Sam Elkas announced an inquiry in early November to probe the transfers of 300 inmates between the Parthenais detention centre in the east end, Bordeaux and Sorel provincial jails, and a former federal jail in Laval. One hundred Parthenais prisoners were moved to Bordeaux, where space was made by moving 170 inmates to Laval and Sorel.

Since Parthenais opened on the top three floors of provincial police headquarters in 1968, it's been roundly denounced by inmates, guards — and safety inspectors for violating municipal regulations. Parthenais

is a "steel hell," a former guest there told the *Daily News* last October.

Built to house 370 inmates awaiting trial, it held 500 the day of last October's transfers. Officially, inmates should not be held in Parthenais over three weeks — still, the average stay is three months, with some held up to two years.

"The transfers were poorly planned — at first, one warden even refused to participate, saying it would 'blow up,' which it really did."

"The first transfers went without problems. It was at night that the beatings started. A bus from Bordeaux to Sorel pulled over on the road, all the prisoners were taken off the bus and beaten. On a bus to Laval the same thing happened."

A PRC lawyer later saw prisoners with bruises at Sorel. Inmates in the Bordeaux infirmary witnessed guards throwing prisoners into buses by their hair or shackles, said another lawyer, Steve Fineberg.

When asked about the inquiry, "I'd like to know about it myself. If you find out anything, tell us."

MR. TIGHT-LIPS ON PRISONS

"Parthenais is still overcrowded," said Beemans. "After the transfers it filled right up again. They just don't know what to do with the people. So, because we're ignoring social problems that cause crime, the buck stops at Parthenais."

A woman at the place where the buck stops said Parthenais PR man Gilles Roussel was "in meetings."

"How about later?"

"No. There's meetings all day."

A later call to the Québec Public Security ministry was also fruitless. A ring to the Québec City offices, someone there ventured, may yield a talkative official. No dice.

The only official available, Guy Petit-Clair of the federal Corrections Department, let slip the concerns — and possible meeting topic — of Québec prison PR types. Bad press about the justice system.

"I have nothing against Ms Beemans," said Petit-Clair. "But she keeps saying always the same thing. It's always negative, and that's regrettable."

Over the phone, the man's spine may have stiffened patriotically. "We're giving people more positive information about the prison system."

Prison officials seem to care no more than Canadian society about the crisis in the justice system and conditions in prisons.

Petit-Clair knew little about last October's beatings of provincial inmates, or the botched transfer.

"Are there similar problems in the federal prison system?"

Petit-Clair was taken aback. "No, no, no. The Charter of Rights still applies, you know. There's been no complaints for years, to the best of my knowledge."

He continued cryptically. "A lot of what guards do involves some use of physical force — breaking up fights, restraining violent prisoners, that sort of thing. We do have grievances, but not necessarily as a result of physical force."

Petit-Clair paused to look around for statistics about the prison system. 2.2 million Canadians have criminal records, he reported after a moment, with 130 000 currently in jail and another 67 000 on probation. In Canada, there are 308 federal prisoners per 100 000 population — compared with 328.2 in the US, the highest rate in the world.

"It probably says a lot for the kind of society," Petit-Clair reflected.

"What does it say about the prison system?"

He stiffened again. "Well, our federal justice system is probably one of the best in the world, you know."

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

On a good day, you can see the Parthenais detention centre from the documentation room in the PRC's office building.

Beemans was on the phone with a man awaiting trial there. She told the caller to talk to the Québec Human Rights Commission while waiting for a PRC lawyer.

"We're a bit tight right now," she said.

The PRC has a rough time of it, ambling along on small donations while lawyers work off Legal Aid and other workers apply for Manpower grants. Government money, says the group, would make it vulnerable and put it into conflict-of-interest when it opposes the government.

There had been another group beating at Parthenais — on Christmas day, she said. Four Blacks and a white awaiting trial for minor crimes were taken to the "hole" — the basement where executioners used to hang death-row criminals — and handcuffed to beds, then beaten for a half-hour amidst racist insults.

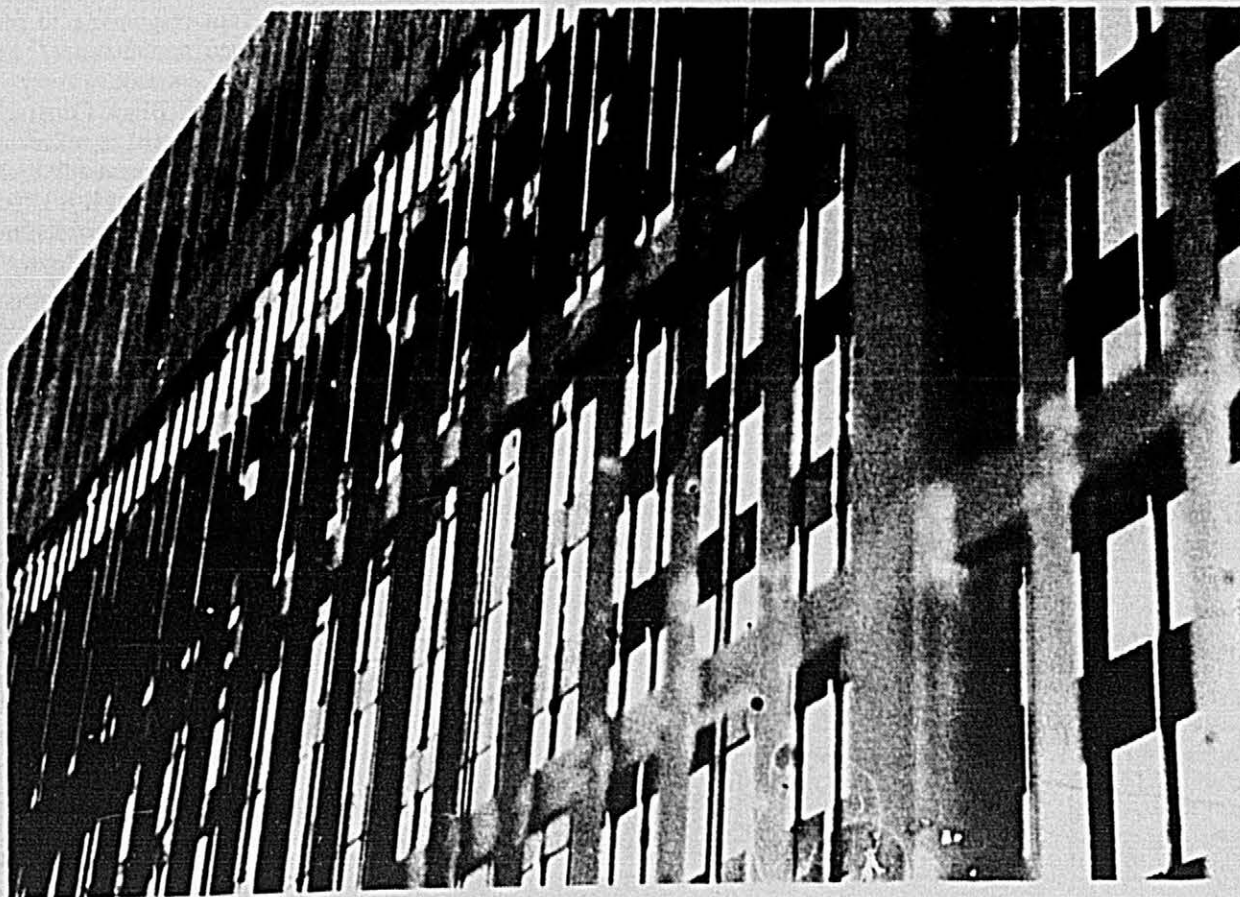
"This incident is pretty typical."

Beemans thought for a moment. "The justice system is a sham. If you're not crazy when you go in, you are when you come out. Guys keep getting sent back after being released because no one is dealing with the problems. Prisons are just creating new ones."

"When those five men get out," said Beemans of the Christmas beating victims, "they will be tougher and more dehumanized."

Though charged with only minor crimes now, the men may soon end up in the federal prison system, where most people have "worked their way up" from provincial jails, said Beemans. Almost half of federal inmates have previous criminal records.

"Prison is a school for crime," she concluded. "It does nothing to protect society."



KATHLEEN LEMIEUX



The
Western
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Canada's "National" Business School is looking for future business leaders.

The Chairman of the MBA Program from
The University of Western Ontario will host
a discussion of the Western MBA Program

Date: February 13, 1990
Time: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Place: The Queen Elizabeth Hotel
Matapedia Room
900 Rene Levesque Blvd. W.
Montreal

Please join us.



Scarlet Key Award 1990

Nominations are now being called for the Scarlet Key Award which distinguishes those students who deserve recognition for their contributions to McGill aside from academic achievement. Excellence in leadership, effort and ability to motivate and involve others will be especially considered. Any student exhibiting such qualities while maintaining academic commitments may be nominated for the receipt of this honour.

Students or persons wishing to nominate a student may pick up application kits at Students' Society General Office, 3480 McTavish Street, Room 105.

Upon completion, application forms may be returned to the Scarlet Key Committee through Internal Mail at the Students' Society information desk. If you require additional information, please inquire at the Students' Society information desk or call 398-3556 or 398-4534 (The Graduates' Society).

The Selection Committee will review applications on a regular basis and will announce award recipients or invite applicants for an interview as appropriate.

DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 23, 1990

The Scarlet Key Society



Centraide



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Salle de bal de l'union des étudiants
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Chanteurs 12h à 14h
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Musiciens, Numéros de variétés, Postes techniques 12h à 14h

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CANADA'S WONDERLAND



Daily news brief

Centre to change mandate for Centraide

The Black Community Centre is re-evaluating its mandate after Centraide cut off its funding last year.

The Centre — created to serve Montréal's black community — is changing its mission statement in order to "reflect the changing community at large," according to Centre workers. The change will include opening its doors to other ethnic groups living in the area of the Centre.

The changes were proposed after Centraide cut the funds of the Centre and those of other centres in the Montréal area because they were "not responding to the needs of their communities," as stipulated by Centraide.

The Black Community Centre is expected to release a new mission statement within the next few weeks, when it is expected to re-apply for Centraide funding.

-Dave McCullough

letter

continued from page 4

West Bank] will function as a base from which to liberate Jaff (Tel-Aviv), Akko (a city on the coast of Israel, near Haifa) and all of Palestine" (Jan. 1987).

"[We seek] at first, a small state, and with Allah's help, it will be made large, and expand to the east, west north and south...I am interested in the liberation of Palestine, step by step" (Dec. 1988).

I hope that the readers of the *Daily* will now recognize that Israel has just cause for not trusting the PLO.

Paul Warshawsky
Med. 1

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ADMINISTRATION

The Faculty of Commerce and Administration has launched its new Master of Science in Administration program, which is designed for candidates who wish to prepare for specialized careers in Business Administration. This unique and challenging new program offers specialization in four areas: Finance, Management, Marketing, and Decision Sciences and Management Information Systems.

Concordia University is the second anglophone University in Canada to offer a program of this nature.

INFORMATION SESSION:

Date: Wednesday, February 7, 1990
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: 1550 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
GM Building, Room 407-1

Please R.S.V.P. 848-2711

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CLASSIFIEDS

Ads may be placed through the Daily business office, room B-17, Union Building, 9h00-15h00. Deadline is 14h00 two weekdays prior to date of publication.

McGill students: \$3.50 per day; \$2.50 for 3 consecutive days, \$2.25 for 4 or more consecutive days. McGill Faculty and Staff: \$4.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day. There is a 25 word limit. There will be a charge of 25¢ for each word over the limit. Boxed ads are available at \$4.00 per ad per day - no discounts on boxing. EXACT CHANGE ONLY PLEASE.

The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

341 - APTS., ROOMS, HOUSING

Female roommate wanted to share luxurious condominium, 5 min. walk from campus, fully furnished, quiet building, \$300/month all included. Call 848-6279.

TO SUBLET: Cheap, cozy 1 1/2 apartment 2 minutes from McGill. All conveniences nearby. Building has deppaneur, restaurant, pool, sauna. Call 284-6458 anytime.

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Summer Jobs in Mississauga! Plan for success with Triple A Student Painters® as crew chiefs or painters. End of Season Bonus. Call Rob at (519) 675-1184 or (416) 629-8234.

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Public Speaking group starting this Thursday, 10:30 - 12:00, McGill Student Counselling Service. Got "Seminar Presentation Jitters"? Phone 398-3601 now!

361 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Vancouver Bound? Looking for ticket holder to Vancouver, night of Feb. 16 or Feb. 17, who would trade for ticket at 16:30, Feb. 16. (male) Darren 286-1538.

Technics: Tuner ST-576, integrated amp SU-V76, 100W/channel, 200W total, equalizer SH-8016 7-band, turntable. One year old. Will sell separately or \$500 for all. 398-3674, 735-0910 (evenings).

Bowie Concert tickets to sell. Good seats. Call Mary - 738-6768 (Mornings are best).

372 LOST AND FOUND

Found Thursday, Jan 30 - Night, Woman's Seiko watch. Outside Currie Gym. Call Guy 485-1236.

Found: BLACK SCARF, in room L321, Friday Feb. 2. Call Jason 270-9228.

Lost: One black coat at the Union bldg. on Thursday night (Feb. 1st) I need my keys and I.D. back big time! Reward 286-0628.

Lost: 5 rings and 2 silver bracelets. Sentimental Value. Reward \$100. Please call 382-1951.

374 - PERSONALS

Frosty says...

"The least you could do is attend today's General Assembly."



Forty Friendly Volunteers to keep you company on your way home from McGill. Get to know them: use the WALK-SAFE NETWORK!! McL. Lobby Mon - Thurs 10:45 p.m.

Singing the mid-term blues. Do your roommates play too much loud Bon Jovi? Can't sleep? Well neither can we! Call 398-6246, 6pm - 3am. Nightline, cause it's confident, anonymous and cool!!

Rock n Roll Picnic II. Ma, Mom + Morgentaler with the Ripcordz & the Elementals. Friday, February 9, Ballroom 8 p.m. \$5.50/\$4.50 with McGill I.D.

An attractive graduate student, too busy to mingle with people, seeking girlfriend. Dep't 894, The Gazette. P.O. Box 4444 Place d'Armes, Montreal, H2Y 3M1.

AMIGA. Amiga club forming at McGill! Interested? Want info? Leave message for Robert at 731-4369 (before 22:30). Or if you

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Are you between the ages of 18 - 65, male or female? You are capable of confidentiality and have a facility to communicate. Then why not become a "simulated patient" for the standardized program of McGill University. It's different, fun and occasional. Salary \$10 per hour. For more information please call 398-7375 February 8 & 9, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Mariette Montecino, B. Sc. N., R.N. Instructor and Coordinator

want, send EMAIL to 8608094@Emf1-Lan. McGill.Ca

383 LESSONS OFFERED

Learn French with a qualified teacher. Best Proven method \$20.00 hour. Atwater/De Maisonneuve. 931-7682.

385 NOTICES

Gays and Lesbians of McGill offers an information and counselling talkline. Call us with questions, problems, or just to talk. Phone 398-6822 or drop by Union 417, M-F, 7 - 10 p.m.

Lesbian/Gay studies group meets Thursdays, discussion group meets Fridays, both at Yellow Door (3625 Aylmer) 17h00. Info 597-0363 (Bill).

Animals are suffering confinement and death in the hands of us humans. Help work to improve their fate. Contact META 276-0914. Next Meeting: Thurs. Feb. 8, 5:30, Rm. B09, Student Union.

XXGetting Married? Start off on the right foot! McGill Chaplaincy's marriage preparation course - March 15, 22, 29 and April 5th evenings. No Charge. Call to register, 398-4104.XX

Call for Papers II McGill Journal of Political Economy is accepting all papers of an economic facet for Spring publication. Submit to ESA box, Economics Department.

The McGill Journal of Russian and Slavic Studies is looking for submissions. The deadline is March 1st. Drop off submissions in Brontman Rm. 663.

Conference "Conflict, Self-Determination and Native Peoples: Searching for Common Ground" Feb 7 - Feb 8, 1990. Faculty of Law, McGill University. For information and to register (no charge) contact the Student Affairs Office or call 398-6966.

Monthly Review is an independent Journal of Political, Economic & Social thought associated with Chomsky, Einstein, Malcolm X, Che Guevara & others. Join the Montreal Friends of Monthly

Now, you probably want to go to a warm, sunny, tropical paradise island for Spring Break.

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Quebec City Carnival, Ottawa Winterlude, New York City and more. McGill Travel Club 762-0332 or drop by at Geri's between 11:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Travel Club General Meeting Thursday, 8 Feb at 6:00 p.m. Union Bldg. Room 410. Come see what we are all about.

Bands needed for Student Rights Woodstock Festival. Drop off your name and phone number at the SSMU front desk (Union Building 1 st floor) by Feb. 16.

387 VOLUNTEERS

Had a religious, mystical or otherwise extraordinary experience? We want to hear about it. Leave number or address: Religious Experience Research Project, 3520 University, Montreal, Quebec.

Female Students in engineering, physical sciences, nursing and engineering needed for psychology study. Involves questionnaires and taking 1 blood sample. Pays \$5.00 Call 939-1213.

Are you Adventurous? Psychologist studying carefree people who've led exciting, impulsive lives. If you're the type of person who would do anything for a dare, call 398-6109.

PIRATES of PENZANCE

By McGill Savoy Society
Westmount High

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4350 Ste. Catherine St. West
February 1-3 and February 8-10
at 8:00 p.m.
February 4 at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: Sadies Tabagie: 398-6795
Savoy Society: 398-6820
3480 McTavish, Rm 415
\$5.00 Students and Seniors; \$10.00 Adults



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398-7375 Mariette Montecino, B. Sc. N., R.N. Instructor and Coordinator

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TEACH-IN '90

Wednesday, February 7

10 am - 4 pm

Leacock 232

A day of debate about tuition fees and the quality of **your** education.

SCHEDULE

10:00 John Fox, VP External, SSMU

10:30 **Federal Debate**

Ron Duhamel, MP (Lib)

Chris Axworthy, MP (NDP)

Pauline Browes, MP (PC), Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State

11:30 Prof. Rigelhof, McGill University

12:00 Principal David Johnston, McGill University

12:45 Representatives of ANEEQ

Representatives of CEQ (Teacher's Union)

Representatives of FEEQ

2:00 **Provincial Debate**

Jacques Chagnon, MNA (Lib)

Representative of Parti Québécois

3:00 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Your turn to decide:

- McGill's reaction to the tuition hike
- What will be our course of action?



Get off your ass – Get INVOLVED.